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we imagine, there will be some difference of opinion. In the very interesting *Diary of Gideon Welles*, Lincoln's Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Welles accounts for the typical psychical characteristics of the South Carolinians of 1860 by recalling that that generation of South Carolina's children had been brought up on the novels of Sir Walter Scott. Doubtless there is some truth in this diagnosis; but it will hardly be accepted,—and was not intended,—as a full philosophy of Secession. So, in a far deeper and more serious way, Professor Dodd has advanced a thesis which is full of interest and which is most ably supported: but it will be better discussed as a thesis than accepted as a final analysis.

A conspicuous merit of Professor Dodd's little volume is found in the firm touch with which the author summarizes the importance to the larger issues of the period of the parts played by the lesser men who surrounded the protagonists. As illustrations may be cited the influence exerted, at critical times, by Robert J. Walker, of Mississippi, and by Thomas Ritchie, of the *Richmond Enquirer*. What a need there is for scientific biographies of just such men!

It is to be regretted that, with such excellent historical content and with such an attractive exterior, there should have crept into the little book a number of minor errors, some of them errors of proof-reading, which give to the captious opportunity for fault-finding. At the very end of the book, the phrase, "A negro has no rights which a white man need respect," is so used by Professor Dodd as to make possible the impression, surely unfortunate, that he conceives this to have been a legal doctrine declared by the *Dred Scott* Decision. ST. G. L. S.

KENTUCKY IN THE NATION'S HISTORY. By Robert McNutt McElroy.
New York: Moffatt, Yard & Company. \$5.00.

In this stout volume by Professor McElroy, of Princeton University, we have a work of great interest and value. Professor McElroy has enjoyed the privilege of an extended use of the valuable library of Colonel Durrett in Louisville. As would be expected, the early history bulks large: one third of the

volume carries the narrative through the period of settlement, the Revolution, the affair of Genet and George Rogers Clark, and the difficulties contemporaneous with the Pinckney Treaty. The Kentucky Resolutions are discussed in an excellent chapter of fifty pages. The next chapters treat of Kentucky's relation to the Louisiana Purchase, the Burr Conspiracy, and the War of 1812. After a briefer handling of the experiences which the State had in banking and "relief," the narrative takes up the War with Mexico. The concluding chapters deal with Clay's later days, the Repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and Kentucky's attempt, in 1860-1861, to occupy a position of neutrality between the North and the South. Dr. McElroy adds an extensive bibliography of Kentucky history and a good index. The illustrations consist of photographic presentations of portraits of Clay, Boone, Wilkinson, and Clark, of documents connected with the story of the Kentucky Resolutions, and of a newspaper reprint of Lincoln's statement to General S. B. Buckner with reference to his policy in regard to Kentucky.

Professor McElroy's work is rather a history of Kentuckians than one of Kentucky. As a narrative of action military and political the book is excellent. One misses the expected analysis, in other fields than finance, of the economic life of the State, and of the interrelation of this life with that of the West as a whole and with that of the nation. For example, there is not a word as to the controversy between Kentucky and Virginia over the rights of the "occupying claimants" under the land laws of Virginia, though the resentment of Kentucky against the adverse decision in this matter of the Supreme Court of the United States led to a most severe attack on the Federal judiciary and to one of the most bitter expressions of States-rights sentiment.

ST. G. L. S.

PATRICIAN AND PLEBEIAN IN VIRGINIA ; OR THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIAL CLASSES OF THE OLD DOMINION. By T. J. Wertenbaker. University, Virginia : Published by the author.

More interesting as a compilation of illustrative material than impressive as a contribution to knowledge is Mr. T. A. Wertenbaker's doctoral dissertation. From the Sainsbury Calendar of